REMARKS

The specification has been amended at page 1 to insert a cross-referencing paragraph. The claims have been amended to delete the improper multiple-dependency therein. No new matter has been added by this Amendment.

Favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fee required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

32,881

By:___

ndrew D. Meikle

Reg. No. 32,868

ADM/gf (703) 205-8000 0229-0787P

فنر ، ي

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-07047